

man of courage and compassion, someone who served our Nation with honor and distinction. My wife Fran and I will continue to keep his family in our thoughts and in our prayers.

LANCE CORPORAL JEREMY SHOCK

Mr. President, this morning I come to the Senate floor to honor Marine LCpl Jeremy Shock. This Green Springs, OH, native died on November 19, 2006, when the vehicle he was riding in hit an improvised explosive device near Fallujah, Iraq. He was 22 years of age at the time.

Jeremy had only been in Iraq since mid-September when the incident occurred. He served as a machine gunner while in Iraq and also repaired weapons in the armory.

Friends and family said Jeremy always put others before himself. One of his former roommates Seth Mahon said this of Jeremy's selflessness:

Jeremy was the greatest guy I ever met. . . . He was the guy who, if he only had \$5 and you needed it, he was going to give it to you. He never asked for help. If you were having a bad day, he would make it a good day.

A 2002 graduate of Clyde High School, Jeremy was a lineman on the football team and set an example for his fellow classmates and teammates. During Jeremy's funeral, his uncles carried his football jersey and a football. The flag hung at half staff at the high school where his brother Zack is a sophomore and his sister Sara is a freshman. Jeremy's High School principal, Joe Webb, said this of Jeremy shortly after his funeral:

Jeremy was a great kid. He was the type of kid that was a leader through example. He would give you a great effort every time. Whatever you asked him to do, you know he would give his maximum effort and get it done. There's just no better young man who's come through Clyde High School than Jeremy Shock.

That is what his high school principal said.

After graduating from high school, Jeremy enrolled in Tiffin University. His friend Lacey Cherry remembers the first time she met him, a few days after they moved in at school. Jeremy, a large football player, would run around the dorms introducing himself to every person he met. Lacey said, "Ever since then, we had been really, really close."

Jeremy's roommates at Tiffin, Seth Mahon and Jake Tidaback, remember how Jeremy was smart, how he worked hard, and how he always would make them laugh. They recall how important joining the Marines was to him. According to Jake, there was no one who could serve our country better than Jeremy. In his words:

Jeremy was simply the typical best friend, the kid who would be there whenever you needed him. He was always happy. If you would be having a bad day, he would make it a good day.

Jeremy enlisted in the Marine Corps Reserves prior to his senior year at Tiffin. He decided to join while he was interning for the International Criminal Police Organization in the summer of

2005. He then graduated with a degree in criminal justice in the spring of 2006.

Jeremy always had a positive outlook on life—an attitude he maintained while serving in Iraq. He kept in touch with his former Tiffin roommates Seth and Jake through e-mail. They remember that while Jeremy would say that serving in Iraq had its "ups and downs," he always concluded that things "didn't seem too bad." As Seth said, "Jeremy just wasn't a very negative person."

Last April, Jeremy married Clara, his college sweetheart. The two met while they were both attending Tiffin. They were married while Jeremy was home for a 3-day leave. Bonnie Tiell, former assistant athletic director and tennis coach at Tiffin University, remembers how caring Jeremy was and how he loved Clara completely. Jeremy's family and friends remember how much he was looking forward to returning home so he could spend more time with her.

During Jeremy's funeral, Clara read the last letter she wrote to him, and I would like to read an excerpt from that letter:

You've made me the happiest woman on Earth. You always give me support when I need it. Even when you're far away, you're here for me. I really don't know yet what I'm going to do without you in my life.

Jeremy will be missed by all who knew him and all who loved him. As his former roommate Seth said:

He will definitely be missed. He's taking a lot of hearts with him.

Jeremy was a humble man who never wanted to be in the spotlight. He took pride in serving his country, and he was someone full of purpose with a strong sense of duty. The military recognized Jeremy's leadership and his drive. He was honored with a National Defense Service medal and a certificate of commendation.

I would like to conclude my remarks with the words from a prayer that was posted on an Internet tribute Web site in Jeremy's honor, and this is what it said:

O Lord, into your hands, we humbly entrust our brother. In this life, you embraced him with your tender love; deliver him now from evil and bid him enter into eternal rest.

My wife Fran and I continue to keep Jeremy and his wife Clara, his father and mother, Duane and Sherry, and his brother and sister, Zack and Sara, in our thoughts and in our prayers.

Mr. President, I yield the floor.

Mr. DURBIN. Mr. President, first, I thank my colleague from Ohio. He has taken on a special responsibility for fallen soldiers from his State to come to the floor and pay tribute to each of them. It involves a great deal of work on his part to put together the record of their lives. It also involves a great deal of commitment on his part. He shows again to Members of the Senate that he is a man with great heart, and I know that he speaks not only for himself and his family but for all of us in extending our condolences to the

2,899 American soldiers who have fallen in the war in Iraq. I thank him for doing this on behalf of his State, and I join him in his salute.

IRAQ STUDY GROUP REPORT

Mr. DURBIN. Mr. President, a few moments ago, the Iraq Study Group presented their report. This is an historic document. It is 142 pages long and easily read. Within the confines of this publication is a very important message. I want to salute, first, the members of this Iraq Study Group. These men and one woman have risen to the call of public service in a way that is exemplary for all of us who are involved in public life. Former Secretary of State James Baker, former Congressman Lee Hamilton, Lawrence S. Eagleburger, Vernon E. Jordan, Jr., Edwin Meese, III, former Supreme Court Justice Sandra Day O'Connor, Leon E. Panetta, William J. Perry, former Senator Charles S. Robb, and former Senator Alan K. Simpson have produced a bipartisan report on a war that troubles every single American, and their conclusion in this report is clear. Their conclusion is it is time for the American troops to leave Iraq and begin coming home. Their conclusion is that we are no longer waiting, if we ever were, for the permission of Iraq for this to happen. Instead, we are putting Iraq on notice that it is time for them to stand and make the important decisions for their future that will lead to stability in that nation.

They have shown, with this report, an impatience and frustration which has been shared with the American people. On November 7, Election Day, the American people were very clear. They said overwhelmingly by their votes across America they want a change in our policy in Iraq. It is no longer acceptable to lose so many of our best and bravest soldiers, no longer acceptable to be bringing these brave soldiers home for communities to grieve and to pray over them, as we should, but we must bring this to an end. Twenty thousand or more American soldiers were disabled in this war, some of whom will struggle for a lifetime to rebuild their lives and their futures. It is also time for us to bring an end to the expenditure of money on the war in Iraq; \$2 billion to \$3 billion a week that we are spending.

At a time when we are cutting back on research at the National Institutes of Health for medical research; at a time when we are unable to fund No Child Left Behind, when we know that our children, our future leaders, need a helping hand and we are unable to provide the resources; at a time when we cannot help working families pay for their health insurance, we are sending billions of dollars over for this war in Iraq, a war that has now lasted longer than World War II.

The report of the Iraq Study Group is a call to action. It is a call for change, and, quite frankly, it is a call on the

President, our Commander in Chief, to move forward with new leadership and with a new candor in dealing with the people of Iraq.

They also make a bold suggestion, which I endorse, that we need to open the diplomatic front. We need to bring to the table in the Middle East many countries that we have shunned for a long period of time, countries that, frankly, we disagree with on many basic things. We need to bring to that table Iran, a country which we have very few things in common with but a country we need to bring in and discuss the future stability in the Middle East. We need to bring Syria to the table as well, in the hopes that they will become an agent for positive change in the Middle East and for stability. There are some who will disagree with that, but I am not one of them. I recall, in the darkest days of the Cold War, we would sit down with the Russians, we would sit down with Soviet leaders, we would try to work out differences, try to find ways to bring a peaceful resolution to many contentious problems. That was the American way then, and it should be now in the Middle East.

I salute the Iraq Study Group. They have given us a guidepost. They have given us a roadmap, in terms of our future policy in Iraq, and now, with the American people calling for change, with the Iraq Study Group on a bipartisan basis calling for change, now, the responsibility shifts to the President of the United States. I hope that he will demonstrate his commitment to change by beginning to redeploy American troops out of Iraq starting in January of next year. If we are to meet the goal of this Iraq Study Group of the American combat forces redeployed out of Iraq by March of 2008, then we need to begin that process and begin it as soon as possible. For our soldiers, for their families, for the American people, the President needs to begin this redeployment.

HONORING SENATORIAL SERVICE

JAMES JEFFORDS

Mr. DURBIN. Mr. President, most of us remember the tectonic shift that occurred in the Senate in 2001, in the month of May, when our colleague, JIM JEFFORDS, changed parties. He moved from being a Republican to becoming an Independent Senator and lined up with the Democratic Caucus. Never before had control of the Senate changed on the decision of one Senator.

It wasn't the first time JIM JEFFORDS had followed his conscience and made history. I can recall his alliance with my predecessor, Senator Paul Simon. At a time many years ago, in 1994, when Rwanda was facing a genocide, Paul Simon and JIM JEFFORDS were the two voices in the United States who stood up and called for the Clinton administration to do something to stop this genocide. Unfortunately, it did not occur and hundreds of thousands of people lost their lives. But that call to

action by JIM JEFFORDS was just one of the achievements of his public career he can point to with pride.

During that genocide, he was the ranking Republican of the Senate Foreign Relations Subcommittee on Africa. The chairman of that committee, Paul Simon, joined with him in that effort. Five weeks after the slaughter in Rwanda began, Senators Simon and JEFFORDS phoned GEN Romeo Dallaire, head of the U.N. peacekeeping force in Kigali, and asked what he needed. The desperate general said he needed 5,000 American troops to stop the killing. Those two Senators, JEFFORDS and Simon, got on the phone, begging the White House to send the troops. They wrote in their common message:

Obviously, there are risks involved, but we cannot sit by idly while this tragedy continues to unfold.

Senators JEFFORDS and Simon received no reply, and the killings continued. Hundreds of thousands of innocent men, women, and children were killed or maimed.

Later, Paul Simon would say:

If every Member of the House and Senate had received 100 letters from people back home saying that we have to do something about Rwanda, when the crisis was first developing, then I think the response would have been different.

So many times I have stood on the floor of the Senate pleading for our Nation to intervene to stop the genocide in Darfur. Each time, I have thought about Paul Simon and JIM JEFFORDS. Had the President listened to them, hundreds of thousands of people in Rwanda could have survived that genocide. It doesn't take a great deal of moral courage to follow your conscience when the world is on your side, but it is when you stand alone, knowing you may lose, and you follow your conscience anyway, that you demonstrate real moral courage.

Time and again in his public career, JIM JEFFORDS, the retiring Senator from Vermont, has shown that courage. He has been an unwavering champion of children and families with special needs, the environment, affordable health care for all Americans, and budget policies that are both compassionate and responsible. He believes in moderation, tolerance, and that the Federal Government be committed to protecting basic individual freedoms.

Three years ago this week, Paul Simon died unexpectedly following heart surgery. At the end of this week, JIM JEFFORDS will be casting his last vote in the Senate. We wish him well in the next chapter of his life. Those of us who have had the privilege of working with JIM JEFFORDS, the new Senators who will join us soon, and those who will follow in years to come would do well to remember the moral courage of Senator JAMES JEFFORDS of Vermont.

PAUL SARBANES

Another retiring colleague is one of my favorites. I have been asked time and again: Who are your favorite Senators on the Democratic side? And I

usually came up with two I always look to for wisdom and guidance: PAUL SARBANES and CARL LEVIN. I am glad that CARL LEVIN will continue his Senate career and has announced that he will run for reelection. But PAUL SARBANES is leaving the Senate after many years of fine service.

PAUL SARBANES is the quintessential American success story. His parents were immigrants from the same little town in Greece. They met in America, and what else would Greek immigrants do? They opened a restaurant—in Salisbury, MD. They picked a classic American name for their restaurant. They called it The Mayflower, and PAUL SARBANES started as a young boy working in his family's restaurant and living "above the store," as they used to say.

He graduated from public high school, but a pretty good student and not a bad basketball player, he won a scholarship to Princeton University, studied as a Rhodes Scholar at Oxford, and earned a law degree from Harvard in 1960. He was set to make a fortune as an attorney in private practice but, instead, he listened to President Kennedy's call to public service and took a job as assistant to Walter Heller, who was President Kennedy's Chairman of the Council of Economic Advisers.

PAUL SARBANES won his first election 40 years ago to the Maryland House of Delegates and was elected to the United States Senate 30 years ago. He is the longest serving U.S. Senator in the history of the State of Maryland. It is said that the Senate is the most exclusive club in the world. PAUL SARBANES is a member of one of the most exclusive clubs within it. Of the 1,885 Americans who have had the rare privilege and honor to serve in the Senate, PAUL SARBANES is one of only 27 who have been here long enough to cast 10,000 votes in the Senate.

He is a modest, soft-spoken, hard-working man and one of the brightest people I have ever served with in the House or the Senate.

A Congressional Quarterly profile says of PAUL SARBANES:

He possesses the intellectual skills to leave his opponents sputtering.

He was a voice of reason in the House Judiciary Committee during the Watergate hearings of 1974 and later in the Senate's Iran-Contra and Whitewater investigations.

It was Senator SARBANES's leadership in the wake of the scandals at Enron and WorldCom that led to the reforms in Sarbanes-Oxley, the most far-reaching reform of accountability standards since the Great Depression.

An interesting thing happened a week ago. On November 30, a group with an impressive and quasi-official-sounding name, the Committee on Capital Market Regulation, released a report arguing that excessive and over-zealous regulation was hobbling U.S. capital markets. The report included 32